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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-621PCT

Applicant(s) : Bernd Schubert, et al  
Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP03/10760)  
Int. Filed : September 26, 2003  
For : VESSEL FOR THE METALLURGICAL TREATMENT  
OF PIG IRON, STEEL MELTS AND SIMILAR,  
IN PARTICULAR A CONVERTER VESSEL

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the  
claims as follows: